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REPORTS SHOW IMPROVEMENT
IN AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

SPRING PLANTING 97.9 PERCENT COMPLETED -- Szabad Nep, No 115, 19 May 49

The Ministry of Agriculture reports that, by 15 May, 97.9 percent of the spring planting was completed. There were 27,172 cadastral yokes of spring wheat planted, 801,954 of spring barley, 318,306 of oats, 1,939,096 of corn, 470,936 of potatoes, 184,851 of sugar beet, and 505,954 of sunflowers. There were also 20,969 cadastral yokes of rice, 103,451 of alfalfa, and 12,477 of tobacco planted.

Up to 15 May, a total of 5,204,446 cadastral yokes have been sown, and the total spring planting will be 5,315,539. Of the country's total arable land of 9,637,978 cadastral yokes, 4,322,000 were already planted last fall. About 110,000 cadastral yokes will be planted in the latter part of May, chiefly in corn. Spring planting will be 100 percent completed by 30 May.

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK INCREASES -- Szabad Szo, No 117, 21 May 49

During the three-year plan, 30 million forints were invested for the reconstruction of Borsod County. At present, Borsod County has only three tractor stations; at the end of this year there will be seven.

The production of livestock in Borsod County has greatly expanded. The number of horses increased to 12,000, cattle increased from 30,000 to 60,000 head and the number of sheep doubled. Hog production has increased sixfold.

Borsod also has a new hospital, nursery, and four tuberculosis sanatoriums. The number of doctors has increased from 40 to 132. At present 525 small homes are being built. To date, 27 towns have received electricity. Flood-control measures are underway along the Tisza. Under the Plan, 21 kilometers of new roads have been constructed and by the end of 1949, 14 kilometers more will be added to the road network. Up to now, 24 bridges have been reconstructed.

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In the Zemplen County there were 27,266 head of beef cattle in 1945. During the past 4 years the number has been quadrupled. The number of horses has been increased from 5,000 to 6,000. Since liberation, the number of swine grew from 12,000 to 25,000.

By the end of the Five-Year Plan the number of livestock will surpass the present stock by 57 percent.

RAPID MECHANIZATION OF AGRICULTURE -- Nepszava, No 108, 11 May 49

On 1 August 1948, there were a total of 38 machine-tractor stations throughout the country, with 548 tractors and 171 threshing machines. By 31 March 1949, there were 128 machine-tractor stations with 1,579 tractors and 277 threshing machines. By the end of 1949 there will be 220 machine-tractor stations with 3,500 tractors and 650 threshing machines. By the end of the Five-Year Plan there will be 500 machine-tractor stations and 20,000 tractors. Tractors will till 6 million cadastral yokes by the end of the Plan. By 1954 every machine-tractor station will be equipped with 40 tractors, and there will be a total of 1,000 combines. In 1954, 3½ times as many agricultural machines must be produced as will be produced in 1949.

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